

**CEE's community offerings expand with new lead role**

*Katie Jones to lead Community Energy Consulting throughout Minnesota*

December 18, 2019, Minneapolis — The Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) has announced Katie Jones as its first Community Program and Policy Manager, heading up the nonprofit's expanding efforts in energy consulting and related community resources. The offering is available to communities statewide.

"In her new role, Katie will continue to grow the work she and her team are already doing to serve communities," explained Jenny Edwards, director of planning and engagement. "This is a core mission area for CEE. We are seeing more and more communities looking to take the next step, and we're ready to help."

Jones will oversee CEE's work with cities and community groups to develop and implement programs and policies aimed at saving energy. Centered around understanding local processes, engaging stakeholders, and leveraging energy data to advance community priorities, team offerings will include energy planning, policy advising, program implementation, and stakeholder outreach, as well as attention to emerging local issues such as workforce development.

As a Certified Energy Manager<sup>®</sup>, Jones brings an eye for data analysis and a deep understanding of building energy performance. Earlier this year as part of the Hennepin County Efficient Buildings Collaborative, she assisted the cities of Edina and St. Louis Park to develop energy benchmarking policies, and also supported the City of Minneapolis to develop, adopt, and implement a suite of energy disclosure policies. Before joining CEE, Katie provided technical assistance for B3 Benchmarking at The Weidt Group and conducted statewide benchmarking outreach with the Clean Energy Resource Teams. She has a B.S. in Environmental and Natural Resources Engineering from Purdue University.

Under the umbrella of Community Energy Consulting ([mncee.org/cec](http://mncee.org/cec)), Jones will draw from a suite of time-tested CEE skills and resources to tailor a practical, cost-conscious approach to achieve each community's energy goals. In one comprehensive package, her team will connect communities of all sizes to energy efficiency resources, planning and facilitation support, and meaningful stakeholder engagement.

Emphasizing the importance of complementary strategies to support complex city and community goals, Jones said, "Through earned relationships, data analysis, and well-informed strategies to tackle challenging issues, we aim to catalyze culture, policy, and programs to help communities set and achieve locally led energy visions."

**About CEE**

Center for Energy and Environment is a clean energy nonprofit with roots in energy efficiency tracing back 40 years. CEE provides a range of practical and cost-effective energy solutions for homes, businesses, and communities to strengthen the economy while improving the environment. Learn more at [mncee.org](http://mncee.org).